

Appl. No. 09/832,581
Atty. Docket No. 8494
Amdt. dated April 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 30, 2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims reflects the claims in the application:

- 1-8. (Cancelled).
9. (Previously Presented) A filter comprising:
 - a) a housing having an inlet and an outlet; and
 - b) a filter material for removing microorganisms from water, said filter material disposed within said housing, said filter material formed at least in part from a plurality of filter particles comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating, wherein the sum of mesopore and macropore volumes of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 0.2 mL/g and about 2.2 mL/g.
10. (Original) The filter of claim 9, wherein said lignosulfonate is selected from the group consisting of ammonium lignosulfonate, zinc lignosulfonate, calcium lignosulfonate, ferric lignosulfonate, magnesium lignosulfonate, chromium lignosulfonate, manganese lignosulfonate, sodium lignosulfonate, copper lignosulfonate, and mixtures thereof.
11. (Currently Amended) The filter of claim 9, wherein said filter material is formed at least in part from one or a combination of plurality of filter particles are selected from the group consisting of glass fibers, screens, ceramic fibers, wovens, and non-wovens, and mixtures thereof comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating.
12. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 9, wherein the BET surface area of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 500 m²/g and about 3000 m²/g.
13. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 9, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is between about 0.1% and about 85%.
14. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 9, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is between about 0.5% and about 45%.
15. (Cancelled).

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16. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 9, wherein the ratio of the sum of the mesopore and macropore volumes to the micropore volume of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 0.3 and about 3.
17. (Previously Presented) A filter comprising:
 - a) a housing having an inlet and an outlet; and
 - b) a filter material for removing microorganisms from water, said filter material disposed within said housing, said filter material formed at least in part from a plurality of filter particles comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is less than about 85% and wherein the BRI of said filter particles is greater than 99%, and wherein the sum of mesopore and macropore volumes of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 0.2 mL/g and about 2.2 mL/g.
18. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a BRI greater than about 99.9%.
19. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a BRI greater than about 99.99%.
20. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a BRI greater than about 99.999%.
21. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a VRI greater than about 90%.
22. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a VRI greater than about 95%.
23. (Currently Amended) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a VRI ~~between~~ greater than about 99%.

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24. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said plurality of filter particles have a VRI greater than about 99.9%.
25. (Currently Amended) The filter of claim 17, wherein said filter material is formed at least in part from one or a combination of plurality of filter particles are selected from the group consisting of glass fibers, screens, ceramic fibers, and wovens, non-wovens, and mixtures thereof comprise glass fibers comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating.
26. (Currently Amended) The filter of claim 17, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is between about 0.1% and about 85.75%.
27. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 17, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is between about 0.5% and about 45%.
28. (Original) The filter of claim 17, wherein said lignosulfonate is selected from the group consisting of ammonium lignosulfonate, zinc lignosulfonate, calcium lignosulfonate, ferric lignosulfonate, magnesium lignosulfonate, chromium lignosulfonate, manganese lignosulfonate, sodium lignosulfonate, copper lignosulfonate, and mixtures thereof.
29. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 17, wherein the BET surface area of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 500 m²/g and about 3000 m²/g.
30. (Cancelled).
31. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 17, wherein the ratio of the sum of the mesopore and macropore volumes to the micropore volume of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 0.3 and about 3.
32. (Previously Presented) A filter comprising:
 - a) a housing having an inlet and an outlet; and
 - b) a filter material for removing microorganisms from a fluid, said filter material disposed within said housing, said filter material formed at least in part from a

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plurality of filter particles comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating, wherein the carbon add-on in said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating is less than about 85%, and wherein the BRI of said filter particles is greater than 99.9%, and the VRI of said filter particles is greater than about 95%, and wherein the sum of mesopore and macropore volumes of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 0.2 mL/g and about 2.2 mL/g.

33. (Original) The filter of claim 32, wherein said lignosulfonate is selected from the group consisting of ammonium lignosulfonate, zinc lignosulfonate, calcium lignosulfonate, ferric lignosulfonate, magnesium lignosulfonate, chromium lignosulfonate, manganese lignosulfonate, sodium lignosulfonate, copper lignosulfonate, and mixtures thereof.
34. (Currently Amended) The filter of claim 32, wherein said filter material is formed at least in part from one or a combination of plurality of filter particles are selected from the group consisting of glass fibers, screens, ceramic fibers, weaves, and non-wovens, and mixtures thereof comprise glass fibers comprising a carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coating.
35. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 32, wherein the BET surface area of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 500 m²/g and about 3000 m²/g.
36. (Cancelled).
37. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 32, wherein the ratio of the sum of the mesopore and macropore volumes to the micropore volume of one or more of said carbonized and activated lignosulfonate coated filter particles is between about 0.3 and about 3.
- 38-64. (Cancelled).